IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Responsive to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2000, in the patent application Sir: identified above, please enter the following amendments and consider the appended remarks. Claims 1-5 and 14 are pending. Based on the following amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims. A request for a twomonth extension of time is enclosed herewith. Please charge any fees to Deposit Account 10-1215.

In The Claims

Please cancel Claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new Claim 6.

In Claim 2 please change "Claim 1" to -- Claim 6 -- therein.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, n July 10, 2000.